

## TEACHING BIOSTATISTICS TO CLINICAL RESEARCH GROUPS

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The aim is to present experiences with an educational approach of giving research courses in applied biostatistics to groups sharing the same clinical research problem

The criterion for participation in a course was to being at least four persons sharing the same clinical research problem. Each group should consist of the supervisor and at least one doctoral student or post-doctoral researchers but also other persons of importance for the project. Hence, medical doctors, nurses, occupational therapists, physiotherapists and medical technicians participated in the same research course in scientific methodology and biostatistics.

The basic topics in a course are the research process including design, the measurement process, identification of variables and measurement levels and data screening. The choice of adequate methods for description and analysis of various types of data is discussed. The course is interactive and the theory is applied on the research problems of the participating groups throughout the course

By this type of course an increased level of statistical and methodological awareness was obtained among all members of a research group and involving a biostatistician in the discussions of a problem became natural.